

AN E SHORTE AND GENERAL CON- fession of the trewe Christiane Fayth and Religion, according to Godis word

and actis of our Parliamentis, Subiected be the Kingis Maiestie and his household, with sundrie vberities. To
the gloype of God and good example of all men. At Edinburgh the Twentie eighth day of
Januarie. The yere of God. An. Thousand. Fyue Hundreth. Foure score yairs.
And the fourtene yair of his Maiesties Regne.



E all and euerie one of vs vnderwritten protest, that after

long and deuie examination of our owne Consciencis, in maters of trewe and fals Reli-
gion, are now thoroughly resolued in the truth, by the worde and spirit of God. And
therefore we beleue with our heartis, confesse with our mouthes, Subscriue with our
hands, and constantly affirme before God and the whole worlde. That this onely is the
true Christian Faith and Religion, pleasing God, and bringeing Salvation to man,
quhilk is now by the mercy of God reueled to the worlde, by the preaching of the blessed
Euangell. And is receaued, beleued, and defended by many and sundrie notable Kirkis
and Realmes, but chiefly by the Kirk of Scotland, The Kingis Maiestie & the Estates
of this Realme, As Gods eternall truth, and onely grounde of our Salvation, as more
particularly is exprest in the confession of our Faith, stablished and publicly confirmed by sundrie actis of Parlia-
mentis, and now of a long time hath bene openly professed by the Kingis Maiestie, and whole body of this Realme, both
in burgh and land. To the quhilk confession and forme of Religion, we willingly agree in our consciencis in al poynts,
as vnto Gods vndoubted trueth and verttie, grounded onely vpon his witten worde. And therefore we abhorre
and detest all contrarie religion and doctrine, but chiefly all kinde of Papistrie in generall and particuler headis, euen
as they are nowe damned and confuted by the worde of God and kirk of Scotlande, but inspeciall we detest and
refuse the vsurped authoritie of that Romane Antichrist vpon the Scriptures of God. vpon the Kirk the chiefe ma-
gistrate and conscience of men. All his tyrannous Lawes made vpon indifferent thinges, agaynst our Christiane
libertie. His erroneous doctrine agaynst the sufficiencye of the witten worde, the perfection of the lawe, the office
of Christ, and his blessed Euangell. His corrupted doctrine concerning originall sinne, our naturall inabilitie any
rebellion to Gods lawe. Our iustification by Faith onely. Our imperfect sanctification and obedience to the lawe.
the nature, number and vse of the holie Sacraments. His fyue bastard Sacraments, with all his rites, ceremonies, and
fals doctrine added to the ministracion of the trew Sacraments without the word of God. His cruel Iudgement agaynst
Infantes departing without the Sacrament, his absolute necessitie of Baptisme, his blasphemous opinion of transub-
stantiation, or reall presence of Christs body in the elements, and receauing of the same by the wicked, or boveis of mē.
His dispensations with solemne othes, Periuers, and degrees of marriage forbidden in the worde, his crueltie agaynst
the Innocent deuoyced, his diuill the Pesse, his blasphemous Priestheite, his prophane sacrifice for the sinnes of the
dead and the quick. His Canonization of men, calling vpon Angels, or Sainctis departed, worshipping of Imagrie,
relicks, and croces, dedicating of Kirkis, Altars, Dayis, Howes to creatures. His Purgatorie, prayers for the deid,
praying or speaking in a strange language, with his processions and blasphemous letanie, and multitude of Aduocates
or Mediatouris. His manifold ordouris, Auriculare confession, his despered and vncertaine repentance, his generall
and voutsome faith, his satisfactions of men for their synnes, his Iustification by workes, Opus Operatum, workes of su-
pererogation, meritis, pardones, peregrinationis and stationis, his holy watter, Baptisming of Bellis, Coniuring of spi-
ritis, Crossing, Saning, Anointing, Coniuring, Pallowing of godis good Creatures, with the superstitious opinion
ioped therewith, his warldly Ponarchie, and wicked hierarchie, his the sollemed howes, with all his shawellings of
sundrie fortis. His erroneous and bloodie decreis maid at Trent, with al the subscribers and appoynters of that cruell
and bloody band, coniuired agaynst the Kirk of God. And finally we detest all his vaine allegories, Rites, signes, and
traditiones brought in the kirk without, or agaynst the word of God and doctrine of this trewe reformed Kirk. To the
quhilk we toyne our selues willingly, in doctrine, Faith, Religion, Discipline and vse of the holie Sacraments, as lyue-
lie members of the same in Christ our head, promissing and swearing by the great Name of the Lord our God, that we
shall continue in the obedience of the doctrine and discipline of this Kirk, and shall defend the same according to our vo-
cation and power, all the dayes of our lyues, vnder the panes contened in the law, and danger both of body, and soule, in
the day of Gods fearefull Iudgement. And seeing that many are styred by by Satan, and that Romane Antichrist,
to promes, sweare, subscriue, and for a time vse the holie Sacraments in the Kirk deceatfully agaynst their owne con-
science, minding hereby, first vnder the external Cloke of Religion, to corrupt and subuert secretly Gods trew Reli-
gion within the Kirk, and afterward when tyme may serue, to become open enemyes and persecuters of the same, vnder
vaine hope of the Popes dispensation deuised agaynst the worde of God, to his greater confusion, and their dooble
condemnation in the day of the Lord Iesus, We therefore willing to take away all suspicion of hypocrisie, and of sic
dooble dealing with God and his Kirk, protest and call the searcher of all hearts for witness, that our minds and heartis
doe fully agree with this our confession, promise, othe, and Subscription. So that we are not moued for any worlde
respect, but are perswaded onely in our conscience, through the knowledge and loue of Gods trew Religion, pmented in
our heartis by the holie Spirit, as we shall answer to him in the day when the secretes of all heartis shalbe disclosed.
And because we perceauie, that the quietnes and stabilitie of our Religion and Kirk doeth depend vpon the sauettie and
good behauiour of the Kingis Maiestie, as vpon ane comfortable Instrument of Godis mercy, graunted to this Coun-
tre, for the maintening of his kirk, & ministracion of Justice amongs vs. We protest & promes with our heartis, vnder
the same othe, hand writ, and panes, that we sal defend his persone and authoritie, with our geir, boveis, and lyues, in the
defence of Christs Euangel, Libertie of our Countrey, ministracion of Justice, and punishment of Iniquitie agaynst al
enemies within this Realme or without, as we desyre our God to be a strong and mercifull defender to vs, in the day of
our death, and cumming of our Lord Iesus Christ. To whome with the Father and the holie Spirit, be all honour
and gloie eternally. Amen.

*The Kinges Maiesties charge to all Commissioners and Ministers
within this Realme.*

Seeing, that we and our Household haue subscribed and geuen this publict confession of our Faith, to the good example
of our Subiectis. We command and charge all Commissioners and Ministers, to craue the same confession of their
parochinars, and proceed agaynst the refusers, according to our Lawes and order of the Kirk, deliuering their names
and lawfull proccesse to the Ministers of our house, with all haste and diligence, vnder the payne of xl. pound, to be taken
from their stipend, that we with the aduise of our Counsel may take ourdour with sic proud contemners of God and our
lawes. Subscriued with our hand. At Holyrudhous, (1580) the 2 day of March, the 14 yair of our regne.

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